General Assembly

Seventy-fourth session
Agenda item 23 (a)

Operational activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. David **Mulet Lind** (Guatemala)

I. Introduction

1.   The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 23 (see A/74/385, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 23rd and 25th meetings, on 21 and 26 November 2019. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/74/L.38 and A/C.2/74/L.38/Rev.1

2.   At the 23rd meeting, on 21 November, the observer for the State of Palestine, on behalf of the States that are members of the Group of 77 and China, taking into account also the provisions of General Assembly resolution 73/5 of 16 October 2018, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations" (A/C.2/74/L.38).

3.   At its 25th meeting, on 26 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/74/L.38/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/74/L.38.

4.   At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/74/L.38/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

5.   Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/74/L.38/Rev.1 (see para. 7).

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* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/74/385, A/74/385/Add.1 and A/74/385/Add.2.

[1] See A/C.2/74/SR.23 and A/C.2/74/SR.25.

6. Also at the 25th meeting, following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Canada, the United States and Australia.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7.   The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its general guidelines,

Reaffirming also its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and its resolution 73/248 of 20 December 2018 on operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming further its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming also the Paris Agreement,[1] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming further the importance of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide strategic policy orientations and operational modalities for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations development system,

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[1] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

1.   *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, 2019;[3]

2.   *Acknowledges* the progress achieved thus far in advancing the mandates contained in General Assembly resolutions 71/243, 72/279 and 73/248, and calls for the full implementation of all mandates, including the remaining mandates;

3.   *Recalls and reiterates* the requests made in Economic and Social Council resolution 2019/15 of 8 July 2019 on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

4.   *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind, commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system, within their respective mandates and resources, to assist States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[4]

5.   *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue strengthening transparency and accountability by providing, in a timely and publicly available manner, within existing resources and avoiding duplication, briefing notes, informal briefings, documents and reports on progress in the implementation of the mandates contained in General Assembly resolutions 71/243, 72/279 and 73/248, including for the preparation of the Assembly resolution on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review to be negotiated at the seventy-fifth session of the Assembly, and in this regard looks forward to the discussions at the operational activities for development segment of the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council;

6.   *Requests* the Secretary-General to present a comprehensive, evidence-based and analytical report to the Economic and Social Council covering all provisions and progress made, lessons learned and challenges in the implementation of the mandates contained in its resolutions 71/243, 72/279 and 73/248 as part of his annual reporting to the Council at the operational activities for development segment during its 2020 session, and to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session for its further consideration and to inform the next cycle of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, to be launched in 2020;

7.   *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "Operational activities for development", the sub-item entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations system".

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[3] A/74/73-E/2019/14, A/74/73/Add.1-E/2019/14/Add.1, A/74/73/Add.2-E/2019/14/Add.2 and A/74/73/Add.3-E/2019/14/Add.3.

[4] Resolution 70/1.

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